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25X1A- COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from Meiningen

25X1X

25X1C

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 21 August 1951

25X1A

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE [redacted]

1. On 28 July 1951, the Barbara Kaserne in Meiningen (M 51/H 82) seemed to be occupied by recruits. [redacted] recruits have been quartered there since March 1951. Since the recruits are restricted to quarters, only a few Soviet soldiers were noticed in the streets of the post. The owner of a laundry stated that about 800 sets of underwear per week were turned in from the Barbara Kaserne in June. A large column observed marching out of the installation in July may have consisted of about 800 troops. It included 28 officers. (1) The epaulets of the troops were of the same color as the uniform and were bordered by a red piping. Some of the officers observed wore artillery insignia. (2) Major Karshirov (innu) has been supply officer in the Barbara Kaserne for the past two years. [redacted]

2. Supply hauls for the Barbara Kaserne were made by five old Studebaker trucks, three of which [redacted] The number of [redacted] was replaced on 25 July, and [redacted] the [redacted] of the [redacted] [redacted]

3. A column of about 150 trucks, 10 half-track vehicles, 14 x 76.2-mm AT and 15 heavy mortars was seen moving from Zella-Mehlis toward Metzels via Kuehndorf, Meiningen-Nord, Walldorf (M 51/H 82) and Wallbach on 17 July. All of the [redacted] the [redacted] Local residents stated that similar columns had moved along this route between 5 and 17 July. It was said that the troops concerned were still practicing in the area of Brau Berg on 28 July. (4)

4. The superintendent of the Meiningen freight yard issued an order to have a dump of construction materials near the western loading ramp removed by 5 August at the latest. The western ramp is six boxcars long and has an end-loading ramp. The eastern ramp, usually used for four boxcars, was also to be cleared by 5 August.

Comments.

(1) Recruits may actually be quartered in the Barbara Kaserne. The presence of 800 troops might indicate that the recruits belonged to several components of the 39th Gds Itz Rifle Div and were concentrated there for training. The division itself was confirmed by its [redacted] in the Crawinkel area near Ohrdruf until 15 July 1951. [redacted] The 117th Gds Itz Rifle Rgt from the Barbara Kaserne has been at Ohrdruf since April 1951. [redacted]

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- (2) The description of the epaulets possibly accounts for several [REDACTED] who stated that soldiers wore black-bordered green epaulets. The uniforms in question are probably summer uniforms.

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- (3) Vehicles of the 39th Gds Mz Rifle Div.

- (4) The [REDACTED] may be assigned to components of the Eighth Gds Army. A previous report stated that troops were unloaded from three trains in Eisfeld (M 51/J 20) on 8 July 1951 and subsequently departed northward. In view of the present report, it is possible that units which have been at Ohrdruf since April 1951 may have held road marches with occasional field exercises in the neighborhood of the troop training grounds.

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